

# Anti-ageism activists bristle at Julián Castro's question to Joe Biden: 'Are you forgetting what you said 2 minutes ago?'

By [Robert Weisman](#) Globe Staff, September 13, 2019, 4:13 p.m.



Julián Castro appeared to mock the age and memory of Joe Biden at Thursday night's Democratic presidential debate. David J. Phillip/Associated Press/Associated Press

Anti-ageism activists think the call for generational change is getting old.

A pointed exchange in Thursday night's Democratic presidential debate, when Julián Castro appeared to mock the age and memory of front-runner Joe

Biden, has prompted howls of protest — and raised the issue of whether and how it's appropriate for political up-and-comers to suggest that it's time to pass the torch to a younger generation.

“ ‘Generational change’ can be code words for ‘you’re too old,’ ” said Margaret Gullette, a resident scholar at Brandeis University’s women’s studies research center in Waltham and author of the book “Ending Ageism or How Not to Shoot Old People.”